

CLONKEEN COLLEGE



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by Transition Year Students

October 2016

Open Night

Our annual Open Night took place on 6th October. Prospective students and their families visited the school, gaining an insight into life at Clonkeen College. It was a great opportunity for us to show the hard work and dedication of everybody in our school community both on a curricular and an extra-curricular level, and for families to see the wonderful refurbishment and building work that has taken place over the last year. Our visitors took a tour of the new laboratories, computer rooms and all classrooms where they met teachers and were shown displays of student work, sporting activities, science experiments and a demonstration of our 3D printer and new coding software. We look forward to welcoming the boys and their families into the Clonkeen College community in September 2018.

CoderDojo Coolest Projects Awards

Congratulations to 3rd Year students, Shaun Toner and Matthew Russell, who won the Smart City section of the CoderDojo Coolest Projects Awards 2016.



The event took place on June 21st in the RDS. Their project entitled “Smart House” involved creating programmes that allowed domestic sensors to transmit data to a website where the results were displayed using apache and json. As we move in the direction of smart houses, where we can control the various systems in our homes remotely, through our computers and mobile phones, the practical application of their work is clear to see. Well done to both boys!

TY Health Promotions

As part of their Health Promotion class students in D1 crafted masquerade masks, which they then wore to highlight how people often fabricate an online persona.



This term students reflected on how people transform themselves online so as to appear more fun, more mysterious or more threatening. Students examined the effect of cyberbullying on its victims and explored ways to tackle the issue. As the final part of this element of their class students took on the role of advice columnists, responding to letters from victims of cyberbullying. Well done to the class and their teacher, Ms Dunlop, on highlighting this important issue.

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Debating Society News

Model United Nations

The string of fantastic results for our debating society continued into October, starting with the students participating in the Terenure Model United Nations, or TERMUN, on Friday September 30th and Saturday October 1st. This was the first two-day event that the school had ever entered, with a team of four, consisting of Sean Nolan, David Farrelly, Killian Farrelly and Finn McGrath making up some of the 200 delegates attending from schools from across Leinster.

A Model United Nations requires teams to represent a certain country, and the Clonkeen team were given the challenging task of speaking for Armenia. They were commended by the judges for the great impact they made in representing such a small country. The students discussed complex issues ranging from biological weapons, to dealing with nuclear missiles and the Korean War.



The weekend finished with the General Assembly, where one of the Armenian delegation's resolutions was debated by the entire 200 delegates. The team once again stood out with their willingness to speak and participate.

At the end of the day the team secured one of three Outstanding Delegation awards; the top prize in the competition! Individual Distinguished Delegate awards were also given to Killian Farrelly and Finn McGrath. Huge congratulations must go to the team for this fantastic result.

Debating

The senior debaters continued in the Leinster Schools Debating Competition, with all three teams qualifying for the next round of the competition. This is a great achievement for the team, considering the very high standard of debating with schools from across Leinster taking part.

Our junior teams were also in action this month, in both prepared and mace events. Three students, David Farrelly, Ayman Menon and Sam Newcombe, competed in the Loreto on the Green Junior Mace on the 15th, once again putting in strong performances. This competition was the second of four rounds organised in the Matheson Junior Debating National Mace, with a place at the Leinster finals at stake for the top 80 debaters in Leinster.

David and Ayman also had their second debate of in the Junior Schools Debating Competition on 20th October in UCD. Like the Leinster Schools Debating Competition this is prepared debating competition open to students from all over Leinster. The boys were placed in a tough room with some of the top teams in the competition. They will have one more preliminary round before they find out if they have qualified for the knockout stages.

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Maths Week

Clonkeen College Maths Department hosted Clonkeen Maths Week from 17th to 21st October to coincide with National Maths Week. During the maths themed week, our Maths Club had their first meeting of the new school year, students from 3rd to 6th Year sat the Prism Exam and our 1st and 2nd Years took part in the 24 Competition.



Well done to Oisín Murray (5th Year) who was best in Clonkeen College in the Prism Exam. The 1st Year Winner of the 24 Competition (a Countdown-style challenge) was Eoin Molly, with Seán Finnegan and Fionnán Kelly runners up (*all pictured above*). Seán O'Reilly came out top in 2nd Year, while Stephen Doran and Nadhir Haouanah were the 2nd Year runners up.

Of the many activities organised during the week, the most popular was again the Daily Puzzle. Well done to each of the daily winners: Conan Scanlan, 5th Year (Monday), Daniel Flatman, 6th Year (Tuesday), Chris Kennedy, 5th Year (Wednesday), Matthew D'Arcy, 2nd Year (Thursday) and Enda Linehan, 6th Year (Friday).

Here are the puzzles that were set this year (Answers on the last page of this newsletter!)

MONDAY

The day before yesterday I was 25 and the next year I will be 28. This is only true one date of the year.

What date is my birthday?

TUESDAY

What is unique about 8549176320?

WEDNESDAY

Tom asked his Granny how old she was. Rather than giving him a straight answer, she replied:

"I have 6 children, and there are 4 years between each one and the next. I had my first child (your Uncle Peter) when I was 19 now the youngest one (your Auntie Jane) is 19 herself.

That's all I'm telling you!"

How old is Tom's Granny?

THURSDAY

Daft Dave, our local DIY expert, is renovating the local hospital. He has to number each of the rooms with plastic numbers.

However, he has run out of the number 9.

How many 9's must Dave buy in order to number all 1,000 rooms?

FRIDAY

Using eight eights and addition only how do you make 1,000?

Congratulations to the Maths Department on a fun-filled week that got the whole school thinking about numbers and problem solving!

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Art

Ms L Healy

#stateofheart

Wednesday 26th October was **#stateofheart** day, organised to highlight the need for reform within the subject of Art. The National Committee of Art Teachers Association of Ireland (ATAI) designated October 26th as the day for Art teachers and Art students to act as activists. On Wednesday, the Minister for Education received postcards from concerned students in the Dáil, while the director of the National College of Art and Design (NCAD) wrote an article about the topic to raise awareness and seek support for our valid request for change. The Art Department in Clonkeen is in full support of radical reform with regards to how Art is both taught and ultimately assessed.

Visit to IMMA

Clonkeen College's Leaving Certificate Art Students visited the Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA) on Wednesday. We had the privilege of viewing the Lucian Freud Exhibition which is currently on show in the Freud Centre. The visit was of huge benefit to our Leaving Certificate Art students who must complete an essay in the Appreciation Section of their Art History Exam on a 'Visit to an Exhibition' (gallery or museum).

The Irish Museum of Modern Art is a particularly impressive building. The exterior structure is strong and imposing, whilst the interior lends itself perfectly to create a functional space for the display of artwork.

The interiors are painted in muted tones of grey, and all of the original architectural features have been restored to perfection. The gallery caters well for the general needs of the public. The café is a welcoming space, with artwork on every wall, most notably the three large scale pieces of work by Hughie O'Donoghue. These are spectacular, and are perfectly positioned on the wall just prior to entering the café.

The Freud Centre is separate from the main building. IMMA has been honoured with the gift of fifty pieces of Freud's artwork from a variety of generous sources for five years.



Lucien Freud 1922-2011

Lucian Freud was born into a Jewish family in Berlin. At the age of ten his entire family moved to London. Freud had six partners in life and fourteen children, but his principal devotion was to painting. His true passion was capturing the human spirit of his sitter.

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Freud also adored nature and felt that there was a strong connection between man and animal. He never accepted commissions. His choice of subjects was personally driven and autobiographical. He mainly painted his family, friends, and people that he admired.

Freud aimed to 'astonish and disturb' the viewer. His portraits expose the vulnerability of the character, and often tend to exaggerate signs of mortality.

One of my personal favourites on display, is of a Donegal man, Pat Doherty. Freud painted a series of portraits of this individual, however, the one that I found most captivating is, in fact, incomplete. The beauty of the image lies in its imperfection. It is fascinating to see the sketch merging with the paint. The frustration that Freud felt in the piece, which resulted in the artist refusing to complete it, creates a dynamic edge to the work. Its flaws are what makes it perfect.

The exhibition will be open to the public for five years and is without a doubt worth a visit.

3rd Year Mosque Visit

On 6th October, C2 and C3 visited the Islamic Cultural Centre in Clonskeagh. This visit was organised by their Religion teacher Ms Mooney as part of their preparation for their Junior Certificate. The students' Religion Journal, which they will complete following their visit, will count for 20% of their Junior Certificate Religion grade. Prior to the visit the students had prepared questions that they were then able to put to Dr Ali Selim.



During their visit, Dr Selim showed the group around the Mosque, explaining the purpose and meaning behind each room visited. He also spoke about the most important Islamic pilgrimage sites, such as Mecca and Ka'ba. Our students gained a deeper understanding of the Islamic faith and its practices which will, undoubtedly, help them as they set about completing their Religion Journal. Well done to all students for their excellent behaviour throughout the visit and a big thank-you to Ms. Mooney, who organised the visit and, along with Mr Sheehy, accompanied the students on the day.



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Transition Year Horticulture

Ms D Evers-Nolan

Greetings from the TY Horticulture Class! So far this term we have been very busy with all things green-fingered. Upon returning after the summer break there was a significant amount of work to be done, including cleaning and clearing out the greenhouse as well as digging the raised beds both inside and out. We have also taken advantage of the ongoing building works at the school and have been scavenging materials such as planks of wood, pallets and top soil for use as part of our 'Grand Plan'.



As we will be limited in what we can sow until the spring we are currently focusing on developing the grounds around the greenhouse. To this end, we have laid part of a gravel path, in addition to digging new flower beds and laying paving stones around our raised beds. In the run-up to spring we hope to increase the biodiversity of the school grounds by providing habitats in the form of "Insect Hotels" (which we will make) as well as planting flowers to attract our visitors. We also plan to build three new raised beds, so that we can increase the variety of the crops we plant in the spring.

That is not to say that we have not been doing any planting. We have begun germinating seeds inside the greenhouse. As this has been quite successful we are now ready to put some of our young plants into the internal raised beds in the hope that this will protect them from the winter frosts. Examples of some of our plants include blackcurrant bushes, pumpkins, turnips, carrots, tomatoes, basil, coriander and green salads. Green Fingers Crossed!



This term we also paid a visit to the award-winning gardens of Our Lady of Good Counsel Boys School, Johnstown. There we learnt all about setting out our gardens into separate growing sections as well as how to take cuttings and propagation. Many thanks to Mr Neil Cadogan (Principal) and especially Ms Annamaria Corrigan for facilitating this trip.

Finally, Donations!!!! We LOVE donations!!! To help us further develop our school garden we are looking for donations of plants, seeds, young trees, cuttings from fruit trees / bushes, paving slabs, cement, old plastic flower pots and gardening tools / equipment (old is totally fine but nothing broken please!). Also, if you are a keen horticulturist and feel you would be able to contribute to our programme please contact Ms Evers-Nolan at the school to discuss further.

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Numeracy

Clonkeen College is working towards improving Numeracy within the school. With this in mind, we have a number of new initiatives getting underway, to further the work of established ones such as our weekly Maths Club. To tie in with our efforts in the area of Literacy a maths-focused Word of the Week and Quote of the Week will be displayed on the Numeracy noticeboard outside Ms Kelly's room (Room 18). Students will also find a weekly puzzle, similar to those from Maths Week, on the same noticeboard. In addition to this, each month a mathematical theme will be chosen and students will be encouraged to bring examples to school to show their interpretation of the theme (for example: a newspaper piece or photo). The theme for November will be "Patterns". A big thank you to our Numeracy Co-ordinator, Ms Kelly, for all her hard work in putting these initiatives in place.

Fitness Talk

Transition Year Young Social Innovators (YSI) class organised two speakers from Boyneside Strength and Performance to come in to talk to students from 1st Year to Transition Year, on Tuesday 25th October. The speakers, Dean Gartland, the owner of the gym and Killian Carolan, a professional power lifter and employee of the gym, spoke to each year group about health and fitness.

They explained to the students that health is more than simply not being sick, and showed that physical, mental and social wellbeing all hold equal importance, forming together an individual's complete health.

Our two guests then addressed the area of fitness, highlighting the various elements that make up an individual's overall fitness: cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength, flexibility, muscular endurance and motor skills. They explained why each area is important and emphasised the importance of being active and moving.



The final part of the presentation focused on diet. Dean and Killian spoke about nutrition, using the food pyramid to show what nutrients the body needs and where to find them. They explained about food supplements such as protein and creatine supplements and strongly advised students against their use. The key message was that the best way to ensure your body gets all the nutrients it needs is to eat healthily, keeping the food pyramid in mind.

A question and answer session followed, during which Dean and Killian enthusiastically responded to a wide variety of questions. We would like to extend a big thank-you to Dean and Killian for their interesting and informative talk and to Ms O'Rourke and the TY YSI class who organised the visit.

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TWSG News

Great news! Clonkeen College Third World Support Group will be opening a new primary school in Penagree, Assam, in eastern India, in early November. The group raised over €30,000 over the past year to build the school through hours of hard work collecting and fundraising. The school will cater for the poorest of the poor in India – “the untouchables” – who are the bottom class of Indian society. There is an opportunity for children and families to escape the terrible poverty in the region, through the oil industry in Assam. However, education is vital for these people to have a chance of finding employment which can support them. Without education, the best people can hope for is a job picking tea being paid around €1 a day. In areas like Penagree, malnutrition is a major problem, as people have little money to feed themselves or their families. The school will give these people access to education, helping them break out of the cycle of poverty.

Mr. McGauley was invited out by the local people to open the school in person, but he is unable to attend. In his place, Tom McGovern, a past pupil and donor, will be travelling to Penagree to open the school. The school would like to congratulate the TWSG on this fantastic achievement which will make such a difference to the lives of the local people.

Student-Teacher Match

The annual Clonkeen College Student-Teacher match took place on Wednesday 19th October. Facing one of the strongest Student Council teams in recent years, the teachers had to call new signings Mr Benson and Mr Conlan to the starting line-up.



The teachers got the scoring underway early in the game, Mr Benson just about managed to get one by the students' goalkeeper Adam Waldron. The students replied immediately bringing the game to 1-1. In a tit-for-tat game Mr Conlan brought it to 2-1 for the teachers, with the students following again with another equaliser. Super subs Mr Lynch and Mr McLoughlin came on at this point in the game to offer support in defence to allow the teachers to push forward in attack. Mr Benson found form for the second and third time, before Mr McBride set up the victory, despite Seán McDonald's expert free kicks and Christian Kelly's goal poaching. The teachers were delighted to come away with a 5-2 victory. A special mention to Dylan Davis who took on the role of goalkeeper for the teachers. A big thank-you to the Student Council, the Third World Support Group and all teachers and students for making the match possible. All funds raised by the match will go to the Third World Support Group.

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Futsal

Clonkeen Come Home Unbeaten

Dylan Davis

Our 1st Years had a great day of Futsal, last Wednesday, October 20th, when they took part in a blitz hosted by Holy Child Community School, Sallynoggin.

Our first game was against Holy Child's B team and resulted in a 4-0 win for Clonkeen. It was a great start for the boys, who continued their winning ways with a 1-0 win over Holy Child's A team, in an extremely tight game, that saw two great saves from keeper Rory O'Kane.



Clonkeen's next opponents were Stepside Educate Together. It was a comfortable game for us as we emerged winners with a score of 7-0. This was followed by a match, which has been known as a 'local derby' in recent years, against Cabinteely Community School. Another extremely tight game, the lads left it late to put the ball in the Cabinteely net and secure themselves the 1-0 victory and bragging rights over our local rivals.

After the break, we were straight back on the pitch with another game against Stepside. Although we won the game 1-0, keeper Darragh O'Dowd was called into action to deny the opposition their chances with two great saves.

The final game was another match against Cabinteely Community School. They might have hoped to make up for their earlier loss, however it wasn't to be for our neighbours who saw themselves yet again defeated on a score line of 2-0.

It was a fantastic day for Clonkeen College's 1st Year Futsal Team, who were not only unbeaten, but did so without conceding a single goal on the day. Congratulations to our two goalkeepers, Darragh O'Dowd and Rory O'Kane who shared player of the tournament with their excellent display of goalkeeping. A big thank you to our coaches Mr Faherty and Mr O'Shaughnessy.

U15 Soccer

The U15 Soccer Team kicked off their league campaign with a resounding win against Moyle Park College on Thursday, 13th October. Both teams scored early but Clonkeen settled and grew in confidence, increasingly imposing their style of play on the game in the first half. At the half-time whistle, they lead 3-1. In the second half, Clonkeen continued their dominance to add two further unanswered goals to the scoresheet. The sheer pace of Marc Ivie and Sam O'Catháin caused huge problems for the oppositions back line, while other notable players Oran Molony, Eoin Dunne and Daniel Murphy were strong in other areas. Clonkeen College were by far the stronger of the two teams on the day.

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On Tuesday, 25th October, the same team had their first outing in the Leinster Cup competition, in a meeting with Tallaght Community School. From the first whistle, Clonkeen were forced to defend and struggled to gain any foothold in the game, with Tallaght scoring twice without reply. Clonkeen looked nervous in possession, failing to make any sort of impact in the first half. After the break, Clonkeen returned to the pitch with renewed vigour, spending the entire second half attacking the Tallaght goal. Although, they did manage to get one past the Tallaght goalkeeper, it arrived too late in the game to allow time for a second. Although the boys were extremely disappointed to exit the Leinster Cup at this early stage, their brave second-half performance showed the character of the team. They hope to learn from their mistakes against Tallaght to come back even stronger in their upcoming league games. Commiserations to the team and their coaches, Mr Faherty and Mr Brennan, on their exit from the competition but also congratulations to them on their excellent performance in the Dublin League. Best of luck in the upcoming matches!

U17 Soccer

October has been a busy month for our U17 Soccer Team. They played their first competitive fixture on 18th October against Chanel College, Coolock. Although Clonkeen had home advantage, the team found it difficult to make an impact on the game. The team from Coolock capitalised on this, leaving us with an unfortunate defeat.

The next match, took place on October 21st. This time around, St Benildus College provided the opposition. Clonkeen were facing an uphill struggle from the start, with a number of 3rd Years having to step up to fill empty jerseys due to several of our regulars being dogged with a litany of injuries. The boys put in an excellent performance but sadly, were no match for the side from St Benildus.



Next for the U17 Soccer Team, was a team building outing on Saturday 22nd, at Kilruddery House and Gardens in Bray. A very enjoyable time was had by the students and their coaches Mr Cassidy and Mr Benson.



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The team faced Oatlands College in their final match on October 25th. This time around, the full starting line-up was available and they started the match with confidence. Their steely determination saw them go 2-0 up in the first half. Buoyed by their success, the team continued their assault in the second half, adding a further two goals to their tally. They were delighted to finish the match with a 4-0 win. Well done to the four goal scorers: Luke Hannigan (TY), Andrew Byrne, Byron O’Gorman and Dylan Wildes (3rd Year). Congratulations to the team and their coaches Mr Cassidy and Mr Benson on the win!

U19 Soccer

The U19 Soccer Team, coached by Mr McBride and Mr Sheehy had two tough matches this month. The first on October 5th away to St Paul’s College, Raheny in the Leinster Cup ended in an unfortunate defeat. The Clonkeen team took an early two-goal lead but failed to capitalise on their opportunities. St Paul’s took advantage of this and managed to draw level by the half time whistle. In the second half, the opposition pulled away, netting a further two goals, to leave Clonkeen with a very disappointing loss and an early exit from the Leinster Cup.

The second match, this time a league fixture, at home to Marian College, took place on Thursday, 20th October. This was another match against a very skilful opposition. This fixture saw a much improved performance by our team, putting in a lot of hard work and showing better defensive organisation.

The match finished 1-1, after Clonkeen managed to score a late equaliser. Best of luck to the team in their next match in the Dublin League, against St. Benildus College, which will take place after the midterm break.

A special mention must go to Seán McDonald, the captain of our U19 Soccer Team. Over the summer break, Seán who plays underage for UCD, represented Leinster in the Irish Provincial Championships. The Leinster team had a fantastic tournament but unfortunately lost out to Ulster in the final. Seán’s next endeavour will be to take part in trials for the Irish School’s Team. We wish him the very best of luck in the selection process!

1st Year Hurling

Our 1st Year hurlers have taken to the pitches to train ahead of the U14 campaign and the 1st Year competition, later in the year. As part of their preparations, they took part in a non-competitive blitz at the GAA Centre of Excellence in Abbotstown on October 21st.



Clonkeen were grouped with teams from local schools, St Benildus College and Coláiste Eoin. It was a great opportunity for the coaches, Mr Bennett and Mr O’Brien, to try out different combinations and to see players in a match situation.

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U16 Hurling

On 5th October, the U16 Hurling Team played Oatlands College in their second match of the group stages of the championship. The opposition had an excellent start, but as the Clonkeen side settled into the game, it became a much more one-sided affair. Clonkeen's superior hurling ability was showcased as they built up a comfortable lead. Although, Oatlands did their best to reciprocate, they were no match for the skill and strength of Clonkeen. Notable performances for Clonkeen came from TY students Jack McCarthy, MacDara O'Midheach and Mike Donnelly and 3rd Year students Cal Doran and Seán Finn.

It was a much closer match when the same team lined out against Blackrock College on October 24th. Both sides came out strong, battling for each and every point, in what was a very physical match. There was no point in the match where either side felt guaranteed the win and so Clonkeen were delighted when, at the final whistle, they were one goal ahead. With two wins and one loss in the group stages, the team is hopeful of a progression to the quarter final stages of the competition, however, this is not yet guaranteed. Congratulations to the team and their coaches Mr Bennett and Mr O'Brien on the two wins!

U14 Gaelic Football

Mr J Lynch

Despite three defeats against St. MacDara's, St. Colmcille's and Old Bawn C.S., we gave an excellent account of ourselves in the U14 Dublin Championship.

Faced with bigger opponents in each match we continued to play an excellent brand of football even if the scoreboards didn't reflect our efforts. In our final match, we said farewell to our 2nd Years and our two "seniors", Conor Knight and Elvis Cooney from 3rd Year. They were exemplary in their leadership. Well done the two of you! So onwards to the U-16 grade next year where our skill will be the deciding factor in the levelling playing field that is the teenage years. Looking forward to seeing you all play! The 2nd Years on the panel were: B1 – Neil Broderick, Euan Hall, Daniel Hughes, Mark Smith, Korey Sweeney-O'Connor and Kevin Traynor; B2 – Stephen Doran, Daniel Drohan, Cillian Dunne, Eoin Dunne, Ciarán Keenan, Eoghan O'Carroll, Seán O'Connell and Shane Russell; B3 – Caolan Burns, Jack Jenkins, Jake Keogh and Daniel Murphy. Well done lads!



The 1st Years settled in quickly and turned out in good numbers for training and the opening games. We now turn our attention to their league after Christmas. Before that, we're all looking forward to the Leinster Blitz in Abbotstown on the day of the Hallowe'en break. Full details in our November newsletter!

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Basketball

Our U16 and U19 Basketball Teams continued in their campaigns in the group stages of their league competitions. The first meeting, on 11th October, saw the U19s go up against a side from Woodbrook College, Bray. Woodbrook were strong in all areas but particularly in defence, making it extremely tough for our boys to get a score on the board. Meanwhile, at their scoring end Woodbrook capitalised on gaps in our defence, managing to build up a comfortable lead. Clonkeen came away with a disappointing loss on a score line of 43-13.



Our next opponents were St David's Secondary School, Greystones, on 14th October. Our U16 team got proceedings underway. It was the first match for the team since top scorer, James Rooney, had moved to America with his family. This meant a new set up for the team who were also trying out some new strategies. They did not disappoint. Facing well-prepared opponents from St David's, our boys showed the depth of their skill and determination. Excellent in defence and on target in every quarter, they kept calm and delivered a victory: 34-20.

This was their second win of their campaign and leaves the chance of progression to the quarter finals wide open. Their next, and final, group match will take place after the midterm break, against St Killian's Bray.

Next up, our U19 side took on St David's. The two sides were well-matched and again our boys played a very good game. The lead changed several times over the course of the match with both teams vying for victory. Unfortunately, at the final whistle it was St David's who came away with the win: 28-21. This was the second loss for our U19 team who are now unlikely to progress to the next stage of the competition. They also face St Killian's Bray in the final group match, after the midterm break.



Congratulations to the U16 team on their wins and commiserations to the U19 team on their losses. Best wishes to both teams and their coach Ms Ní Chatháin in their final group matches.

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Spikeball Blitz

Spikeball has started again for students in 1st and 2nd Year who do not participate in other sports within the school. This sport is similar to volleyball but each match is contested by teams made up of just four players.



Teams consisting of students from 1st and 2nd Year attended a blitz at Coláiste de hÍde, Talaght, on 14th October. This was a fantastic opportunity for Clonkeen College to prepare for the qualifying rounds that will take place in November. The boys represented us well, showing guts and guile as they faced stiff competition from teams from Coláiste de hÍde, Scoil Mhuire, Clane and Kishoge Community College. It was a fantastic opportunity for students from all four schools to get some competition experience.

Well done to Mr Howley and to all the students involved in the blitz!

Maths Week Answers

MONDAY

The day before yesterday I was 25 and the next year I will be 28. This is only true one date of the year.

What date is my birthday? Answer: 31st December

TUESDAY

What is unique about 8549176320?

Answer: It is the digits 0-9 in alphabetical order

WEDNESDAY

Tom asked his Granny how old she was. Rather than giving him a straight answer, she replied:

"I have 6 children, and there are 4 years between each one and the next. I had my first child (your Uncle Peter) when I was 19 now the youngest one (your Auntie Jane) is 19 herself.

That's all I'm telling you!"

How old is Tom's Granny? Answer: She is 58 years old

THURSDAY

Daft Dave, our local DIY expert, is renovating the local hospital. He has to number each of the rooms with plastic numbers. However, he has run out of the number 9.

How many 9's must Dave buy in order to number all 1,000 rooms?

Answer: He must buy 300 number 9s

FRIDAY

Using eight eights and addition only how do you make 1,000?

Answer: $888 + 88 + 8 + 8 + 8 = 1,000$